Import of newsprint by STC

4338 SHRI RAJKESHAR SINGH Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) the total quantity of newsprint with its value imported by state Trading Corporation during each of the last five years

(b) the procedure adopted for its distribution particularly to small and medium newspapers alongwith credit facilities extended to them; and

(c) the total quantity of the newsprint in stock at the end of march each year during the above period and the reasons for piling up the stock?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House

Foreign Investment Promotion Board

4339 SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :
SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state

(a) the total number of investment proposal cleared by Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) till date.

(b) whether FIPB has cleared the proposal of Rupert Murdoch's News Corporation to set up wholly-owned subsidiary in the country. and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) 3249 numbers of proposal envisaging foreign direct investment of Rs.80,620 Crores have been approved by Foreign Investment Promotion Board during the period from 1.8.91 to 30.09.96.

(b) and (c) The proposal of M/S/ News Corporation, USA for setting up a wholly owned subsidiary in India to be engaged in development and sourcing of media software bringing in modern techniques and equipment, promotion and marketing of STAR TV. was recommended for consideration of Government by the Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB). However Government have not approved the proposal.

Production of Coal

4340 SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of coal produced in Bokaro-Kargali colliery area under Central coal Field Limited during the last three years, and

(b) the action taken by the Government to increase the coal production in collieries of Bokaro Kargali area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) Coal production from Bokaro and Kargali area under Central Coalfields Limited (CCL) during the last three yeas is as under :-

(Million Tonnes)

1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
3.00	2.75	2.64

(b) For increasing the level of Coal production from Bokaro and Kargali area, 3 new project are under implementation and Advance Action for 5 more projects has been initiated.

[Translation]

Credit Deposit Ratio of Banks in Maharashtra

4341 SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the locations-wise details of branches of nationalised banks functioning in Maharashtra, bank-wise;

(b) the details of the amount deposited in these banks during each of the last two years, bank-wise,

(c) the loan amounts sanctioted/allocated to the farmers during the said period, bank-wise;

(d) whether the target fixed for distribution of loans have been achieved by these banks;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the corrective measures taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (f). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent available.

[English]

Gold Confiscated at IGIA, Delhi

4342. SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity and value of gold, confiscated at the Indira Gandhi International Airport, Delhi during the last three years, month-wise;

(b) the number of smugglers detained on this account; and

(c) the details of action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) The quantity and value of gold seized at the Indira Gandhi International Airport,